



Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Institute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 20

Complete if Known

Application Number	10797,439
Filing Date	March 9,2004
First Named Inventor	Gary Weller
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	SATTY 69244

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		2,108,206		02-15-1938	Mecker	
		2,508,690		07-13-1948	Schmerl	
		3,395,710		08-06-1968	Stratton et al.	
		3,986,493		10-19-1976	Hendren, III	
		4,057,065		11-08-1977	Thow	
		4,133,315		01-09-1997	Berman et al.	
		4,134,405		01-16-1979	Smit	
		4,198,982		04-22-2980	Fortner et al.	
		4,246,893		01-27-1981	Berson	
		4,315,509		02-16-1982	Smit	
		4,343,066		08-19-1982	Lance	
		4,416,267		11-22-1983	Garren et al.	
		4,458,681		07-10-1984	Hopkins	
		4,485,805		12-04-1984	Foster, Jr.	
		4,501,264		02-26-1985	Rockey	
		4,547,192		10-15-1985	Brodsky et al.	
		4,558,699		12-17-1985	Bashour	
		4,592,339		06-03-1986	Kuzmak et al.	
		4,592,354		06-03-1986	Rothfuss	
		4,598,699		07-08-1986	Garren et al.	
		4,607,618		08-26-1986	Angelchik	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)				
		WO	1994/18893	A1	09-01-1994	Fitton et al.		
		WO	1999/17662	A1	04-15-1999	Wilson-Cook Medical		
		WO	1999/53827	A1	10-28-1999	Mills et al.		
		WO	2000/32137	A1	06-08-2000	Dua et al.		
		WO	2000/48656	A1	08-24-2000	Boston Scientific Corp.		
		WO	2000/78227	A1	12-28-2000	Laufer et al.		
		WO	2000/78229	A1	12-28-2000	Laufer et al.		
		WO	2001/66018	A1	09-13-2001	C.R. Bard Inc.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/797,439		
				Filing Date		March 9, 2004		
				First Named Inventor		Gary Weller		
				Art Unit		3731		
				Examiner Name		Unassigned		
Sheet 2		of 20		Attorney Docket Number		SATTY 69244		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)					
		4,641,633		02-10-1987	Rockey			
		4,646,722		03-03-1987	Silverstein et al.			
		4,648,383		03-10-1987	Angelchik			
		4,694,827		09-22-1987	Weiner et al.			
		4,716,900		01-05-1988	Ravo et al.			
		4,723,547		02-09-1988	Kullas et al.			
		4,739,758		04-26-1988	Lai et al.			
		4,744,363		05-17-1988	Hasson			
		4,773,393		09-27-1988	Haber et al.			
		4,790,294		12-13-1988	Allred, III et al.			
		4,803,985		02-14-1989	Hill			
		4,841,888		06-27-1989	Mills et al.			
		4,899,747		02-13-1990	Garren et al.			
		4,905,693		03-06-1990	Ravo			
		4,925,446		05-15-1990	Garay et al.			
		4,927,428		05-22-1990	Richards			
		4,969,474		11-13-1990	Schwarz			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ² (if known)				
		WO	2001/67964	A2	09-20-2001	Medigus Ltd.		
		WO	2001/85034	A1	11-15-2001	Geitz		
		WO	2002/024080	A2	03-28-2002	Schurr et al.		
		WO	02/35980	A2	05-10-2002	Satiety, Inc.		
		WO	2002/039880	A2	05-23-2002	McClellan et al.		
		WO	2002/071951	A1	09-19-2002	Alvarez		
		WO	2002/091961	A1	11-21-2002	Hashiba et al.		
		WO	2002/096327	A2	12-05-2002	Weller et al.		
		WO	2003/007796	A2	01-30-2003	Laufer et al.		
		WO	2003/017882	A2	03-06-2003	Syneor, LLC		
Examiner Signature					Date Considered			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/797,439		
				Filing Date		March 9, 2004		
				First Named Inventor		Gary Weller		
				Art Unit		3731		
				Examiner Name		Unassigned		
Sheet	3	of	20	Attorney Docket Number		SATTY 69244		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)					
		5,037,021		08-06-1991	Mills et al.			
		5,059,193		10-22-1991	Kuslich			
		5,080,663		01-14-1992	Mills et al.			
		5,084,061		01-28-1992	Gau et al.			
		5,112,310		05-12-1992	Grobe			
		5,129,915		07-14-1992	Cantcys			
		5,156,609		10-20-1992	Nakao et al.			
		5,171,233		12-15-1992	Amplatz et al.			
		5,197,649		03-30-1993	Bessler et al.			
		5,220,928		06-22-1993	Odds et al.			
		5,222,961		06-29-1993	Nakao et al.			
		5,226,429		07-13-1993	Kuzmak			
		5,234,454		08-10-1993	Bangs			
		5,246,456		09-21-1993	Wilkinson			
		5,250,058		10-05-1993	Miller et al.			
		5,254,126		10-19-1993	Filipi et al.			
		5,259,366		11-09-1993	Reydel et al.			
		5,259,399		11-09-1993	Brown			
		5,261,920		11-16-1993	Main et al.			
		5,263,629		11-23-1993	Trumbull et al.			
		5,297,536		03-29-1994	Witk			
		5,301,658		04-12-1994	Zhu et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)				
		WO	2003/078721	A2	09-25-2003	Sauer		
		WO	2003/086247	A1	10-23-2003	Sack et al.		
		WO	2003/088844	A1	10-30-2003	Zubik et al.		
		WO	2003/094785	A1	11-20-2003	Egan		
		WO	2003/105671	A2	12-24-2003	Ewers et al.		
Examiner Signature						Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/797,439			
				Filing Date		March 9, 2004			
				First Named Inventor		Gary Weller			
				Art Unit		3731			
				Examiner Name		Unassigned			
Sheet	4	of	20	Attorney Docket Number		SATTY 69244			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)						
		5,306,300		04-26-1994	Berry				
		5,309,896		05-10-1994	Moll et al.				
		5,309,927		05/10/1994	Welch				
		5,327,914		07-12-1994	Shlain				
		5,330,486		07-19-1994	Wilk				
		5,330,503		07-19-1994	Yoon				
		5,331,975		07-26-1994	Bonutti				
		5,334,209		08-02-1994	Yoon				
		5,334,210		08-02-1994	Gianturco				
		5,345,949		09-13-1994	Shlain				
		5,346,501		09-13-1994	Regula et al.				
		5,355,897		10-18-1994	Pietrafitta et al.				
		5,376,095		12-27-1994	Ortiz				
		5,382,231		01-17-1995	Shlain				
		5,403,326		04-04-1995	Harrison et al.				
		5,433,721		07-18-1995	Hooven et al.				
		5,437,291		08-01-1995	Pasricha et al.				
		5,449,368		09-12-1995	Kuzmak				
		5,452,837		09-26-1995	Williamson, IV et al.				
		5,458,131		10-17-1995	Wilk				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		T*
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ² (if known)					
		WO	2004/009269	A2	01-29-2004	Craig et al.			
		WO	2004/014237	A1	02-19-2004	Gannoe et al.			
		WO	2004/017863	A2	03-04-2004	Bessler			
		WO	2004/019826	A1	03-11-2004	Carlledge et al.			
		WO	2004/037064	A2	05-06-2004	Satiety, Inc.			
		WO	2004/049911	A2	06-17-2004	Hickle			
		WO	2004/058102	A2	07-15-2004	Imran			
		WO	2004/060150	A1	07-22-2004	Smith et al.			
		WO	2004/087014	A2	10-14-2004	GI Dynamics, Inc.			
Examiner Signature						Date Considered			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10797,439				
				Filing Date	March 9, 2004				
				First Named Inventor	Gary Weller				
				Art Unit	3731				
				Examiner Name	Unassigned				
Sheet	5	of	20	Attorney Docket Number	SATTY				
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)						
		5,465,894		11-14-1995	Clark et al.				
		5,467,911		11-21-1995	Tsuruta et al.				
		5,486,183		01-23-1996	Middleman et al.				
		5,489,058		02-06-1996	Plyley et al.				
		5,503,635		04-02-1996	Sauer et al.				
		5,527,319		06-18-1996	Green et al.				
		5,535,935		07-16-1996	Vidal et al.				
		5,542,949		08-06-1996	Yoon				
		5,549,621		08-27-1996	Bessler et al.				
		5,555,898		09-17-1996	Suzuki et al.				
		5,558,665		09-24-1996	Kieturakis				
		5,577,654		11-26-1996	Bishop				
		5,578,044		11-26-1996	Gordon et al.				
		5,582,616		12-10-1996	Bolduc et al.				
		5,584,861		12-17-1996	Swain et al.				
		5,588,579		12-31-1996	Schnut et al.				
		5,601,604		02-11-1997	Vincent				
		5,603,443		02-18-1997	Clark et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)					
		WO	2004/103189	A1	12-02-2004	Gambale et al.			
		WO	2005/023118	A1	03-17-2005	Garza Alvarez			
		WO	2005/037152	A1	04-28-2005	Stack et al.			
		WO	2005/058239	A2	06-30-2005	Saadat et al.			
		WO	2005/060882	A1	07-07-2005	Meade et al.			
		WO	2006/078781	A1	07-27-2006	Levine et al.			
		EP	0 137 878	A1	04-24-1985	Garren et al.			
		EP	0 174 843	A1	03-19-1986	Mills et al.			
		EP	0 246 999	A1	11-25-1987	Omikron Scientific Ltd.			
		EP	0 540 010	A2	05-05-1993	Bessler et al.			
Examiner Signature						Date Considered			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/797,439			
				Filing Date		March 9, 2004			
				First Named Inventor		Gary Weller			
				Art Unit		3731			
				Examiner Name		Unassigned			
Sheet	6	of	20	Attorney Docket Number		SATTY 69244			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)						
		5,624,381		04-29-1997	Kieturakis				
		5,626,588		05-06-1997	Sauer et al.				
		5,639,008		06-17-1997	Gallagher et al.				
		5,649,937		07-22-1997	Bitto et al.				
		5,651,769		07-29-1997	Waxman et al.				
		5,662,664		09-02-1997	Gordon et al.				
		5,662,667		09-02-1997	Knodel				
		5,667,520		09-16-1997	Bonutti				
		5,676,659		10-14-1997	McGurk				
		5,685,868		11-11-1997	Lundquist				
		5,690,656		11-25-1997	Cope et al.				
		5,697,943		12-16-1997	Sauer et al.				
		5,707,382		01-13-1998	Sierocuk et al.				
		5,722,990		03-03-1998	Sugarbaker et al.				
		5,728,178		03-17-1998	Buffington et al.				
		5,735,848		04-07-1998	Yates et al.				
		5,749,893		05-12-1998	Vidal et al.				
		5,755,730		05-26-1998	Swain et al.				
		5,766,216		06-16-1998	Gangal et al.				
		5,776,054		07-07-1998	Bobra				
		5,782,844		07-21-1998	Yoon et al.				
		5,797,931		08-25-1998	Bitto et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ² (if known)					
		JP	63277063	A	11-15-1988	Olympus Optical Co Ltd			
		JP	63279854	A	11-16-1988	Olympus Optical Co Ltd			
		JP	63302863	A	12-09-1988	Olympus Optical Co Ltd			
		JP	01049572	A	02-27-1989	Olympus Optical Co Ltd			
		JP	04297219		10-21-1992	Norikazu Hattori			
Examiner Signature						Date Considered			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number		10/797.439			
				Filing Date		March 9, 2004			
				First Named Inventor		Gary Weller			
				Art Unit		3731			
				Examiner Name		Unassigned			
Sheet	7	of	20	Attorney Docket Number		SATTY 69244			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear			
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)						
		5,810,851		09-22-1998	Yoon				
		5,810,855		09-22-1998	Rayburn et al.				
		5,810,882		09-22-1998	Bolduc et al.				
		5,816,471		10-06-1998	Plyley et al.				
		5,820,584		10-13-1998	Crabb				
		5,824,008		10-20-1998	Bolduc et al.				
		5,827,298		10-27-1998	Hart et al.				
		5,833,690		11-10-1998	Yates et al.				
		5,836,311		11-17-1998	Borst et al.				
		5,839,639		11-24-1998	Sauer et al.				
		5,860,581		01-19-1999	Robertson et al.				
		5,861,036		01-19-1999	Godin				
		5,868,141		02-09-1999	Ellias				
		5,868,760		02-09-1999	McGuckin, Jr.				
		5,876,448		03-02-1999	Thompson et al.				
		5,879,371		03-09-1999	Gardiner et al.				
		5,887,594		03-30-1999	LoCicero, III				
		5,897,534		04-27-1999	Heim et al.				
		5,888,196		03-20-1999	Bonutti				
		5,906,625		05-25-1999	Bito et al.				
		5,910,105		06-08-1999	Swain et al.				
		5,910,149		06-18-1999	Kuzmak				
		5,921,993		07-13-1999	Yoon				
		5,927,284		07-27-1999	Borst et al.				
		5,928,264		07-27-1999	Sugarbaker et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)					
Examiner Signature					Date Considered				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Approved for use through 07/31/2003 OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known Application Number 10/797,439 Filing Date March 9, 2004 First Named Inventor Gary Weller Art Unit 3731 Examiner Name Unassigned Attorney Docket Number SATTY 69244				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)								
Sheet	8	of	20	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)					
		5,925,107		08-10-1999	Taylor et al.			
		5,938,669		08-17-1999	Klaiber et al.			
		5,964,772		10-12-1999	Bolduc et al.			
		5,964,782		10-12-1999	Lafontaine et al.			
		5,972,001		10-26-1999	Yoon			
		5,972,002		10-26-1999	Bark et al.			
		5,976,161		11-02-1999	Kirsch et al.			
		5,980,537		11-09-1999	Ouchi			
		5,993,464		11-30-1999	Knodel			
		5,993,473		11-30-1999	Chan et al.			
		6,015,378		01-18-2000	Borst et al.			
		6,030,364		02-29-2000	Durgin et al.			
		6,030,392		02-29-2000	Dakov			
		6,042,538		03-28-2000	Puskas			
		6,044,847		04-04-2000	Carter et al.			
		6,067,991		05-30-2000	Forsell			
		6,074,343		06-13-2000	Nathanson et al.			
		6,083,241		07-04-2000	Longo et al.			
		6,086,600		07-11-2000	Kontenbach			
		6,113,609		09-05-2000	Adams			
		6,119,913		09-19-2000	Adams et al.			
		6,120,513		09-19-2000	Bailey et al.			
		6,136,006		10-24-2000	Johnson et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)				
Examiner Signature						Date Considered		

* **EXAMINER:** Initial if reference construed, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Document at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁵ For Chinese patent documents, the indication of the year of the People's Republic of China must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁶ If the check mark here (if English language Translation is attached) this collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.197 and 1.198. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Information Management, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA 22314-5000. Do not send forms OR COMPLETED forms to THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1456, Alexandria, VA 22314-1456.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known Application Number 10/797,439 Filing Date March 9,2004 First Named Inventor Gary Weller Art Unit 3731 Examiner Name Unassigned Attorney Docket Number SATTY 69244				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)								
Sheet	9	of	20					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)					
		6,159,146		12-12-2000	El Gazayerli			
		6,159,195		12-12-2000	Ha et al.			
		6,165,183		12-26-2000	Kuehn et al.			
		6,179,022		03-06-2001	Baker			
		6,179,195		01-30-2001	Adams et al.			
		6,186,942 B1		02-13-2001	Sullivan et al.			
		6,186,985 B1		02-13-2001	Snow			
		6,197,022		03-06-2001	Baker			
		6,206,822 B1		03-27-2001	Foley et al.			
		6,206,893 B1		03-27-2001	Klein et al.			
		6,224,614 B1		05-01-2001	Yoon			
		6,231,561 B1		05-15-2001	Frazier et al.			
		6,248,058 B1		06-19-2001	Silverman et al.			
		6,254,642 B1		07-03-2001	Taylor			
		6,273,897 B1		08-14-2001	Dalessandro et al.			
		6,279,809 B1		08-28-2001	Nicolo			
		6,290,674 B1		09-18-2001	Roue et al.			
		6,302,917 B1		10-16-2001	Dua et al.			
		6,312,437 B1		11-06-2001	Kortenbach			
		6,328,689 B1		12-11-2001	Gonzalez et al.			
		6,338,345 B1		01-15-2002	Johnson et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)				
Examiner Signature						Date Considered		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference cited, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Document at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁵ For Chinese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁶ The information is required here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is marked to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20540. **SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450**

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known				
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/797,439			
				Filing Date	March 9, 2004			
				First Named Inventor	Gary Weller			
				Art Unit	3731			
				Examiner Name	Unassigned			
Sheet	10	of	20	Attorney Docket Number	SATTY 69244			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)					
		6,358,197 B1		03-19-2002	Silverman et al.			
		6,379,366 B1		04-30-2002	Fleischmann et al.			
		6,387,104 B1		05-14-2002	Pugsley, Jr. et al.			
		6,398,795 B1		06-04-2002	McAlister et al.			
		6,416,535 B1		07-09-2002	Lazarus			
		6,423,087 B1		07-23-2002	Sawada			
		6,432,040 B1		08-13-2002	Meah			
		6,447,533 B1		09-10-2002	Adams			
		6,460,543 B1		10-08-2002	Forsell			
		6,475,136 B1		11-05-2002	Forsell			
		6,491,707 B2		12-10-2002	Makower et al.			
		6,535,764 B2		03-18-2003	Imran et al.			
		6,540,789 B1		04-01-2003	Silverman et al.			
		6,551,310 B1		04-22-2003	Ganz et al.			
		6,554,844 B2		04-29-2003	Lee et al.			
		6,561,969		08-16-2001	Frazier et al.			
		6,572,629		06-03-2003	Kaloo et al.			
		6,592,596 B1		07-15-2003	Geitz			
		6,626,899		09-30-2003	Houser et al.			
		6,632,227 B2		10-14-2003	Adams			
		6,663,598 B1		12-16-2003	Carrillo, Jr. et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)				
Examiner Signature						Date Considered		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<div>Complete if Known</div> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>10/797,439</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>March 9,2004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Gary Weller</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>3731</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>SATTY 69244</td> </tr> </table>				Application Number	10/797,439	Filing Date	March 9,2004	First Named Inventor	Gary Weller	Art Unit	3731	Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	SATTY 69244
Application Number	10/797,439																		
Filing Date	March 9,2004																		
First Named Inventor	Gary Weller																		
Art Unit	3731																		
Examiner Name	Unassigned																		
Attorney Docket Number	SATTY 69244																		
<div>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</div> <div>(use as many sheets as necessary)</div>																			
Sheet	11	of	20	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS															
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Document Number			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear												
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)																
		6,663,639 B1			12-16-2003	Laufer et al.													
		6,663,640 B2			12-16-2003	Kortenbach													
		6,675,809 B2			01-13-2004	Stack et al.													
		6,682,520 B2			01-27-2004	Ingemito													
		6,689,062 B1			02-10-2004	Mesallum													
		6,692,485 B1			02-17-2004	Brock et al.													
		6,716,222 B2			04-06-2004	McAlister et al.													
		6,733,512 B2			05-11-2004	McGhan													
		6,736,822 B2			05-18-2004	McClellan et al.													
		6,740,098 B2			05-25-2004	Abrams et al.													
		6,740,121 B2			05-25-2004	Geitz													
		6,746,489 B2			06-08-2004	Dua et al.													
		6,754,536 B2			06-22-2004	Swoyer et al.													
		6,755,849 B1			06-29-2004	Gowda et al.													
		6,755,869 B2			06-29-2004	Geitz													
		6,756,364 B2			06-29-2004	Barbier et al.													
		6,764,518 B2			07-20-2004	Godin													
		6,773,440 B2			08-10-2004	Gannoe et al.													
		6,786,898			09-07-2004	Guenst													
		6,790,214 B2			09-14-2004	Kraemer et al.													
		6,802,868 B2			10-12-2004	Silverman et al.													
		6,821,285 B2			11-23-2004	Laufer et al.													
		6,835,199 B2			12-28-2004	McGuckin, Jr. et al.													
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS																			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶											
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind ⁵ (if known)															
Examiner Signature						Date Considered													

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference construed, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, standard ST.3). ⁴ Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document (e.g., application, published application, etc.) must be indicated. ⁵ If the document is in a language other than English, check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Office of Information Management, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 450, Alexandria, VA 22304-0450. DO NOT SEND DES OR COMMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 450, Alexandria, VA 22304-0450.

Approved for use through 07/31/2003 OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[illegible]

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). * See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Document at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. * Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). * For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. * If the English translation of the document is available, please indicate the date of the translation. * If the document is a translation of a foreign language, check mark here if English Language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or confer a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application under the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case: Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20514-0001. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22314-1450.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. 5 For Chinese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. 6 If the English translation of the document is not available, the document may be cited as an indication of the prior art. 7 If the document is a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application and to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for improvement should be forwarded to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁵ If the document is in a language other than English, the date of the document and the date of the translation must be indicated. ⁶ If the document is not in English, check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Do NOT SEND FEE OR OTHER DOCUMENTS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22314-1500.

ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /DE/

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[illegible]

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference conferred, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See *Kind's Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04.* ³ Enforce Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁵ If the document is in a language other than English, the English translation must be attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 7 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20590. **SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22303-1450.**

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known Application Number 10/797,439 Filing Date March 9, 2004 First Named Inventor Gary Weller Art Unit 3731 Examiner Name Unassigned Attorney Docket Number SATTY 69244					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT								
(use as many sheets as necessary)								
Sheet	16	of	20					
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ³	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)					
		2005/0075622 A1		04-07-2005	Levine et al.			
		2005/0075653 A1		04-07-2005	Saadat et al.			
		2005/0080444 A1		04-14-2005	Kraemer et al.			
		2005/0085787 A1		04-21-2005	Laufer			
		2005/0096750 A1		05-05-2005	Kagan et al.			
		2005/0119671 A1		06-02-2005	Reydel et al.			
		2005/0143760 A1		06-30-2005	Imran			
		2005/0148818 A1		07-07-2005	Mesallum			
		2005/0149067 A1		07-07-2005	Takemoto et al.			
		2005/0149114 A1		07-07-2005	Cartledge et al.			
		2005/0177176 A1		08-11-2005	Gerbi et al.			
		2005/0194038 A1		09-08-2005	Brabec et al.			
		2005/0194294 A1		09-08-2005	Oxle et al.			
		2005/0194312 A1		09-08-2005	Niemeyer et al.			
		2005/0195925 A1		09-08-2005	Traber			
		2005/0195944 A1		09-08-2005	Bartels et al.			
		2005/0196356 A1		09-08-2005	Leinen et al.			
		2005/0197540 A1		09-08-2005	Liedtke			
		2005/0197622 A1		09-08-2005	Blumenthal et al.			
		2005/0197684 A1		09-08-2005	Koch			
		2005/0198476 A1		09-08-2005	Gazzi et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No ³	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Office ⁵	Number ⁴	Kind ² (if known)				
Examiner Signature						Date Considered		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference cited, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Document at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. ⁵ If the document is in a language other than English, the language must be indicated. ⁶ If the document is in a language other than English, a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20590. Do not send fees or completed forms to this address. Send to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22304-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

[illegible]

* **EXAMINER:** Initial if reference conserved, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2. See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Document at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). 4. For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent. 5. If the document is in a language other than English, the language must be indicated. 6. If the document is in a language other than English, a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application and to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20590. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please send fees or completed forms to this address. Send To: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22303-1450

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/797,439
		Filing Date	March 9, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Gary Weller
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 18 of 20	Attorney Docket Number	SATY 69244	
OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Benjamin, S.B., et al., <i>A Double-Blind Cross Over Study of the Garren-Edwards anti-Obesity Bubblem Abstract</i> Submitted to A/S/G/E/ 1987, Georgetown University Hospital and Fairfax Hospital, Washington, D.C. and Fairfax, VA	
		Benjamin, S.B., <i>Small Bowel Obstruction and the Garren-Edwards Bubble. Lessons to be Learned?</i> Abstracts Submitted to A/S/G/E 1987, Division of Gastroenterology, Department of Medicine, Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, D.C.,	
		Boyle, Thomas M., M.D., et al., <i>Small Intestinal Obstruction Secondary to Obturation by a Garren Gastric Bubble</i> , <i>The American Journal of Gastroenterology</i> , Vol. 82, No. 1, pp. 51-53, 1987	
		Büchler, M.W., M.D. et al., <i>A Technique For Gastroplasty As A Substitute For The Esophagus: Fundus Rotation Gastroplasty</i> , <i>Journal Of The American College Of Surgeons</i> , Vol. 182, pp.241-245, March 1996	
		Cass, O.W., et al., <i>Long-Term Follow-Up of Patients With Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy (PEG)</i> , Abstracts Submitted to A/S/G/E 1987, Department of Medicine, Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, MN 55415	
		Chang, Craig G. M.D. ¹ , et al., <i>Gastro-Clip® Gastroplasty: A Very Long-Term Complication</i> , <i>Obesity Surgery</i> , 14, © FD-Communications Inc., 2004	
		Clark, Charlene, R.N., <i>The Gastric Bubble: Medicine, Magic or Mania?</i> <i>SGA Journal</i> , Vol. 9, No. 2, pp. 45-47, Fall 1986	
		Cummings, David E., M.D., et al., <i>Plasma Ghrelin Levels After Diet-Induced Weight Loss or Gastric Bypass Surgery</i> , <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i> , Vol. 346, No. 21, pp. 1623-1630, May 23, 2002	
		Davenport, Horace W., Ph.D., D.Sc., <i>Physiology of the Digestive Tract: An Introductory Text</i> , 3d Ed., Cover and Table of Contents	
		DeMeester, Tom T., M.D., <i>Evolving Concepts of Reflux: The Ups and Downs of the LES</i> , <i>Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology</i> , Vol. 16, No. 5, pp. 327-331, 2002	
		De Waele, B., M.D., et al., <i>Intragastric Balloons for Preoperative Weight Reduction</i> , <i>Obesity Surgery</i> , Vol. 10, pp. 58-60, 2000	
		Edell, Steven L., et al., <i>Radiographic Evaluation of the Garren Gastric Bubble</i> , <i>American Journal of Radiology</i> , Vol. 145, pp. 49-50, July 1985	
		Endo Gia* Universal, Single Use Stapler and Endo GIA Reticulator*, Brochure, 8 pages, Undated	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	10/797,439
		Filing Date	March 9, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Gary Weller
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket Number	SATTY 69244
Sheet	19	of	20
OTHER PRIOR ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Filipi, Charles J. M.D., et al., <i>Transoral, Flexible Endoscopic Suturing For Treatment Of GERD: A Multicenter Trial, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</i> , Vol. 53, No. 4, pp. 416-422, 2001	
		Gray, Henry, R.R.S., <i>Anatomy of the Human Body, The Digestive System</i> , Thirtieth American Edition, pp. 1466-1467 (Undated)	
		Guidant, Intemet, AXIUS™ VACUUM 2 Stabilizer Systems, Internet Website - www.guidant.com/products/axius_vacuum.shtml , 8 pages, visited May 27, 2003	
		Hepworth, Clive C. FRCS et al., <i>Mechanical Endoscopic Methods Of Haemostasis For Bleeding Peptic Ulcers: A Review</i> , <i>Bailliere's Clinical Gastroenterology</i> , Vol. 14, No. 3 pp. 467-476, 2000	
		Ikcda, Y. et al., <i>New Suturing Device For Transanal Endoscopic Microsurgery</i> , <i>Blackwell Science Ltd</i> , p. 1290, 1997	
		Johnson & Johnson Gateway™ Endopath 3mm, 5mm and 10 mm Diameter Endoscopic Instruments, Internet Website - www.inigateway.com/home.html?loc=USENG&page=viewContent&parentId=0900... , 3 pages, visited May 29, 2003	
		Kirby, Donald F., <i>Incomplete Small Bowel Obstruction by the Garren-Edwards Gastric Bubble Necessitating Surgical Intervention</i> , <i>The American Journal of Gastroenterology</i> , Vol. 82, No. 3, pp. 251-253, 1987	
		Nieben, Ole Gyiring, et al., <i>Intragastric Balloon as an Artificial Bazaar for Treatment of Obesity</i> , <i>The Lancet</i> , pp. 198-199, January 23, 1982	
		Percival, Walter L., M.D., <i>"The Balloon Diet": A Noninvasive Treatment for Morbid Obesity. Preliminary Report of 1908 Patients</i> , <i>The Canadian Journal of Surgery</i> , Vol. 27, No. 2, pp. 135-136	
		Power Medical Interventions Digital and Wireless Medical Technology, Product Innovation: SurgASSIST™, Internet Website - www.pmi2.com/access_flexibility.asp , 6 pages, visited May 29, 2003	
		Snowden Pencer, Diamon-Flex Angled Snake Retractor (class 1, 878,480), Appendix F.f, Undated	
		Stoltenberg, P.H., et al., <i>Intragastric Balloon Therapy of Obesity: A Randomized Double-Blind Trial</i> , Abstracts of Papers 1985, Scott & White Clinic, Texas A&M College of Medicine, Temple, Texas	
Examiner Signature	Date Considered		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	10/797,439
		Filing Date	March 9, 2004
		First Named Inventor	Gary Weller
		Group Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 20 of 20	Attorney Docket Number	SATTY 69244	
OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Swain, C. Paul, M.D. et al., <i>An Endoscopic Sewing Machine</i> , <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , Vol. 32, No. 1 pp 36-38 1986	
		Swain, C. Paul, M.D., <i>Endoscopic Sewing And Stapling Machines</i> , <u>Endoscopy</u> pp. 205-210, © Georg Thieme Verlag Stuttgart, New York, 1997	
		Swain, C. Paul, M.D. et al., <i>An Endoscopic Sewing Machine</i> , <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , Vol. 32, No. 1, pp. 36-38, 1986	
		Swain, C. Paul, M.D. et al., <i>An Endoscopic Stapling Device: The Development Of A New Flexible Endoscopically Controlled Device For Placing Multiple Transmural Staples In Gastrointestinal Tissue</i> , <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , Vol. 35, No. 4, pp. 338-339, 1989	
		Swain, C. Paul, M.D., <i>Endoscopic Suturing</i> , <u>Bailliere's Clinical Gastroenterology</u> , Bailliere's Tindall, Vol. 13 No. 1, pp 97-108, 1999	
		Taylor, T. Vincent, et al., <i>Gastric Balloons for Obesity</i> , <u>The Lancet</u> , Abstract, March 27, 1982	
		Vandemplas, Y., et al., <i>Intragastric Balloons in Adolescents With Morbid Obesity</i> , <u>European Journal of Gastroenterology & Hepatology</u> , Vol. 11, No. 3, pp. 243-245, 1999	
		Villar, Hugo V. M.D., et al., <i>Mechanisms of Satiety and Gastric Emptying After Gastric Partitioning and Bypass</i> , <u>Surgery</u> , pp. 229-236, August 1981	
		Wullstein, C., et al., <i>Compression Anastomosis (AKA-2) in Colorectal Surgery: Results in 442 Consecutive Patients</i> , <u>British Journal of Surgery</u> 2000, pp. 1071-1075	
Examiner Signature	/Darwin Erezol		Date Considered 10/25/2008

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO, Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.